

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte membrane composite for manufacturing a membrane electrode assembly of a fuel cell, comprising:

an electrolyte membrane having a first side and a second side opposite to said first side; and
a first masking member ~~provided with~~ including a plurality of first holes each extending to said first side of said electrolyte membrane, ~~wherein said first masking member is detachably~~
removably attached to [[one]] said first side of said electrolyte membrane.

14. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte membrane composite according to Claim 13, wherein
each of said plurality of first holes are shaped in a shape of is configured to shape a fuel electrode
~~for a fuel cell~~ applied to said electrode membrane.

15. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte membrane composite according to Claim 13, further comprising:

a second masking member ~~detachably~~ including a plurality of second holes each extending to said second side of said electrolyte membrane, said second masking member removably attached to ~~the other~~ said second side of said electrolyte membrane.

16. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte membrane composite according to Claim 13, further comprising:

a gas barrier sheet removably attached to said first masking member.

17. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte membrane composite according to Claim 16, wherein said gas barrier sheet is ~~detachably attached to said masking member~~ made of an autohesion material.

18. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte membrane composite according to Claim ~~[[16]]~~ 13, ~~wherein said~~ further comprising:

a gas barrier sheet is ~~detachably~~ removably attached to said electrolyte membrane.

19. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte membrane composite according to Claim ~~[[13]]~~ 18, wherein said ~~masking member~~ gas barrier sheet is made of an autohesion material.

20. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte membrane composite according to Claim [[16]] 13, wherein said ~~gas barrier sheet~~ masking member is made of an autohesion material.

21. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte membrane composite according to Claim 13, wherein said electrolyte membrane composite is adapted to be wound ~~to be made~~ into a roll stock.

22. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte membrane composite according to Claim 13, wherein said ~~electrolyte membrane composite is cut to be made into~~ electrolyte membrane and said first masking member further comprise a plurality of sheets each of which has at least one [[hole]] of said first holes.

23. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte membrane composite according to Claim 13, further comprising:

~~wherein said electrolyte membrane composite is wrapped with~~ a gas barrier wrapping material disposed about said electrolyte membrane and said first masking member.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an electrolyte membrane composite having an electrolyte membrane and a masking member, said method comprising:

~~boring a desired shape~~ forming at least one hole in the masking member that is configured to shape an electrode applied to the electrolyte membrane and that extends to the electrolyte membrane; and

thereafter, attaching the masking member to the electrolyte membrane.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an electrolyte membrane composite having an electrolyte membrane and a masking, said method comprising:

attaching the masking member to the electrolyte membrane; and

thereafter, ~~boring a desired shape~~ forming at least one hole in the masking member configured to shape an electrode applied to the electrolyte membrane and extending to the electrolyte membrane.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing ~~an electrolyte membrane electrode a~~ membrane electrode assembly for a fuel cell using an electrolyte membrane composite having an electrolyte membrane and a masking member with a plurality of holes removably attached to the electrolyte membrane, the method comprising:

~~installing rotatably a roll stock of an electrolyte membrane composite having an electrolyte membrane and a masking member provided with a plurality of holes;~~

~~drawing the electrolyte membrane composite from the roll stock;~~

transporting the electrolyte membrane composite;

applying ~~or filling in~~ at least one of an electrode ink ~~[[or/and]]~~ or a powder electrode material on the electrolyte membrane through the plurality of holes of the masking member to form a plurality of electrodes on the electrolyte membrane while transporting the electrolyte membrane composite; and

~~peeling off~~ removing the masking member from the electrolyte membrane after the plurality of electrodes are formed on the electrolyte membrane.

27. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing ~~an electrolyte membrane electrode a~~
membrane electrode assembly for a fuel cell using an electrolyte membrane composite having an
electrolyte membrane, a masking member with a plurality of holes detachably attached to the
electrolyte membrane, and a gas barrier sheet removably attached to the electrolyte membrane or
the masking member, the method comprising:

~~installing rotatably a roll stock of an electrolyte membrane composite having an electrolyte~~
~~membrane, a masking member provided with a plurality of holes, and a gas barrier sheet;~~

~~drawing the electrolyte membrane composite from the roll stock;~~

transporting the electrolyte membrane composite;

~~peeling off~~ removing the gas barrier sheet from the electrolyte membrane composite;

applying ~~or filling in~~ at least one of an electrode ink [[or/and]] or a powder electrode
material on the electrolyte membrane through the plurality of holes of the masking member to
form a plurality of electrodes on the electrolyte membrane while transporting the electrolyte
membrane composite; and

~~peeling off~~ removing the masking member from the electrolyte membrane after the plurality
of electrodes are formed on the electrolyte membrane.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing ~~an electrolyte membrane electrode a~~
membrane electrode assembly for a fuel cell using an electrolyte membrane composite having an
electrolyte membrane having a first side and a second side opposite to the first side, a first masking
member attached to the first side of the electrolyte membrane and provided with a plurality of first

holes extending to the first side of the electrolyte membrane, and a second masking member attached to the second side of the electrolyte membrane and provided with a plurality of second holes extending to the second side of the electrolyte membrane, the method comprising:

~~installing rotatably a roll stock of an electrolyte membrane composite having an electrolyte membrane, a first masking member attached to a first side of the electrolyte membrane and provided with a plurality of holes, and a second masking member attached to a second side of the electrolyte membrane and provided with a plurality of holes;~~

~~drawing the electrolyte membrane composite from the roll stock;~~

transporting the electrolyte membrane composite;

~~applying or filling in at least one of an electrode ink [[or/and]] or a powder electrode material on the first side of the electrolyte membrane through the plurality of first holes of the first masking member to form a plurality of first electrodes on the first side of the electrolyte membrane while transporting the electrolyte membrane composite;~~

~~peeling off removing the first masking member from the electrolyte membrane;~~

~~reversing the electrolyte membrane and the second masking member;~~

~~applying or filling in at least one of the electrode ink [[or/and]] or the powder electrode material on the second side of the electrolyte membrane through the plurality of second holes of the second masking member to form a plurality of second electrodes on the second side of the electrolyte membrane while transporting the electrolyte membrane and the second masking member membrane composite; and~~

~~peeling off removing the second masking member from the electrolyte membrane.~~

29-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing ~~an electrolyte membrane electrode a~~
membrane electrode assembly for a fuel cell using an electrolyte membrane composite having an
electrolyte membrane having a first side and a second side, a first masking member attached to the
first side of the electrolyte membrane and provided with a plurality of first holes, and a second
masking member attached to the second side of the electrolyte membrane and provided with a
plurality of second holes, the method comprising:

transporting ~~[[an]] the electrolyte membrane composite having an electrolyte membrane, a~~
~~first masking member attached to a first side of the electrolyte membrane and provided with a~~
~~plurality of holes, and a second masking member attached to a second side of the electrolyte~~
~~membrane and provided with a plurality of holes; [[and]]~~

~~filling in or/and~~ applying a powder electrode material on the electrolyte membrane through
the plurality of first holes of the first ~~and second~~ masking ~~members~~ member to form a plurality of
first electrodes on the first side of the electrolyte membrane while transporting the electrolyte
membrane; and

applying the powder electrode material on the electrolyte membrane through the plurality of
second holes of the second masking member to form a plurality of second electrodes on the second
side of the electrolyte membrane while transporting the electrolyte membrane.

32. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 31, further comprising:

~~increasing a density of the powder electrode material filled in or~~ applied to the plurality of ~~first holes of the first and second masking members~~ member and the plurality of second holes of the second masking member.

33. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 32, further comprising:

reapplying the powder electrode material in the plurality of first holes;
reapplying the powder electrode material in the plurality of second holes; and
~~reiterating said filling in or/and applying and said further~~ increasing the density of the powder electrode material applied to the plurality of first holes of the first masking member and the second holes of the second masking member.

34. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 31, further comprising:

at least one of heating [[or/and]] or pressing the powder electrode material after the powder electrode material is applied to the first holes of the first masking member and the second holes of the second masking member; and
~~peeling off~~ removing the first and second masking members from the electrolyte membrane.

35. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 31, wherein further comprising:

~~at least said filling in or/and applying the powder electrode material is performed in~~ transporting the electrolyte membrane composite in a vacuum while applying the powder electrode material.

36. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 31, further comprising:

cutting the electrolyte membrane after the plurality of first electrodes are formed and the plurality of second electrodes are formed.

37-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing ~~an electrolyte membrane-electrode a~~
membrane electrode assembly for a fuel cell using an electrolyte membrane and a masking
member having a hole configured to shape a fuel electrode applied to the electrolyte membrane,
the method comprising:

~~laminating a~~ removably attaching the masking member ~~provided with a hole bored in a~~
~~shape of an electrode~~ onto a gas diffusion layer [[or/and]] or an indirect transfer film ~~for an~~
~~electrode;~~

~~applying or filling in~~ an electrode ink [[or/and]] or a powder electrode material on the gas
diffusion layer [[or/and]] or the indirect transfer film through the hole to form a first electrode;

~~peeling~~ removing the masking member from the gas diffusion layer or the indirect transfer
film; and

transferring or heat-pressing the electrode ink [[or/and]] or the powder electrode from the
gas diffusion layer or the indirect transfer film onto [[an]] the electrolyte membrane to form a
second electrode.

40-41. (Cancelled)

42. (New) A method according to Claim 26, further comprising:

fixing the electrode ink or the powder electrode material to the electrolyte membrane.

43. (New) A method according to Claim 27, further comprising:

fixing the electrode ink or the powder electrode material to the electrolyte membrane.

44. (New) A method according to Claim 28, further comprising:

fixing the electrode ink or the powder electrode material to the electrolyte membrane.